

REMARKS

Please reconsider the application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Applicant thanks the Examiner for carefully considering this application and for courtesies extended during the Examiner Interview conducted on July 13, 2007.

Disposition of Claims

Claims 1-18 are pending in the present patent application. Claims 1, 14, and 18 are independent. The remaining claims depend, either directly or indirectly, from claims 1 and 14.

Claim Amendments

Claim 15-17 are hereby amended to correct typographical errors. No new matter has been added by this amendment, as the amendment is merely a formality to correct typographical errors.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-4, 8, 14-16 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,049,878 ("Caronni"). To the extent that this rejection may still apply to the amended and original claims, the rejection is respectfully traversed.

"A claim is anticipated only if *each and every element* as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference." *Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California*, 814 F.2d 628, 631 (Fed. Cir. 1987) (emphasis added). Further, "[t]he identical invention must be shown in as complete detail as is contained in the claim." *Richardson v. Suzuki Motor Co.*, 868 F.2d 1226, 1236 (Fed. Cir. 1989).

The Applicant respectfully asserts that Caronni does not expressly or inherently describe each and every element of claims 1-4, 8, 14-16. Specifically, upon reviewing the Office Action dated May 9, 2007, Applicant asserts that the references cited in the rejection are not supported by the cited portions of Caronni and, thus, are not proper. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

Applicant believes this reply is fully responsive to all outstanding issues and places this application in condition for allowance. If this belief is incorrect, or other issues arise, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned or his associates at the telephone number listed below. Please apply any charges not covered, or any credits, to Deposit Account 50-0591 (Reference Number 03226/366001; SUN040143).

Dated: July 19, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

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